

A submission to the Clare County Development Plan (2023 – 2029) on behalf of the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience Development Plan Implementation Committee.

Ref: Traffic & Transport Submission

The Burren & Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience Development Plan (VEDP) is a five year commercial, tourism plan which was launched in October 2021 by a committee that includes representation from Fáilte Ireland, Clare County Council, OPW, Burren and Cliffs of Moher UNESCO Global Geopark, Burren Ecotourism Network, numerous tourism businesses from the Burren and Cliffs of Moher. The vision of the plan is to increase dwell time and inspire visitors and the next generation to become custodians of The Burren and Cliffs of Moher.

Under the Burren & Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience Development Plan (VEDP), “Visitor Management & Dispersal” is called out under “Traffic & Transport” which is one of nine Catalyst Projects. A key issue for both the Burren and Cliffs of Moher is the environmental pressures that are already being witnessed during peak periods. Issues include, but are not limited to congestion, infrastructural problems, lack of transport management. To help ensure the future sustainability of the region’s natural and cultural assets and communities, it is imperative that an appropriately resourced visitor management, traffic and transport strategy is developed and delivered.

Following a number of consultations, and most recently the public meeting held in the Falls Hotel on the 1st March, it is apparent that the Burren VEDP can only deal with traffic & transport from a tourism aspect. However, the issue is wider than tourism, and therefore needs to be considered and addressed in a more comprehensive and holistic approach to include tourism, community, planning, environment, industry and infrastructural aspects

The Burren & Cliffs of Moher VEDP implementation committee proposes that the development of an integrated traffic and transport strategy for North Clare be included as an objective under the County Development Plan. This objective could be included under CDP 9.24 Tourism in North Clare and the Burren and should incorporate and link to other objectives relating to transport, rural development, sustainable communities, retail and physical development.

Our Implementation Committee is representative of the various communities and tourism Stakeholders within the Burren to include:

Eoin Hogan	Rural Recreation Officer, CLDC
Geraldine Enright	Director Cliffs of Moher (Co-Chair)
Joan Hamilton	Doolin2Aran Ferries
Representative	The Burren Centre
Nuala Mulqueoney	Director Aillwee Cave & Birds of Prey Centre (Co-Chair)
Carol Gleeson	Geopark
George Quinn	Ballyvaughan
Chris Talbot	Publican/Kinvara
Birgitte Heidin Curtin	Burren Smokehouse/Lisdoonvarna

*Nuala
Mulqueoney*

Brid O'Meara	Lahinch Coast Hotel/Lahinch
Jarlett O'Dwyer	CEO Burren Ecotourism Network
Anthony Moloney	Doolin Inn/Doolin
Simon Haden	Gregan's Castle
Liam O'Brien	Doolin Ferry
Deirdre O'Shea	Clare County Council
Sean Davoran	Caherconnell Stonefort/Carron
Peter Hynes	Aloha Surf/Fanore
Sheila Joyce	OPW
Niamh Wiley	Rural & Community Officer, CCC
Margaret Jenkins	Manager, Failte Ireland
Siobhan King	Officer, Failte Ireland